

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 00548 021657Z

61

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-11

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAM-01 SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-10 ACDA-19 IO-14 DODE-00

DRC-01 /147 W

----- 047682

R 021528Z FEB 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3861

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 3656

S E C R E T USNATO 0548

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: ATLANTIC RELATIONS: FRENCH VIEWS ON ATLANTIC DECLARATION

1. CANADIAN PERM REP MENZIES HAS SENT ME THE FOLLOWING REPORT OF A CONVERSATION ON THE ATLANTIC DECLARATION BETWEEN COUNSELOR OF FRENCH EMBASSY, OTTAWA AND A SENIOR OFFICIAL IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. PLEASE PROTECT.

2. BEGIN TEXT.

"IN THE COURSE OF DISCUSSION, FRENCH REPRAISED ONCE AGAIN THE FAMILIAR FRENCH ARGUMENTS IN FAVOUR OF THEIR TEXT FOR PARAS 3, 4 AND 5. IN DOING SO HE MADE ALL TOO CLEAR THAT FRENCH LOOK ON DEFINCE OF EUROPE AND OF NORTH AMERICA AS SEPARATE AND DISTINCT PROBLEMS. HE ALSO ACKNOWLEDGED, IN EFFECT, THAT THE LOGIC OF SUCH AN APPROACH WAS THAT EUROPEANS PER SE RAHTER THAN THE ALLIANCE AS A WHOLE, SHOULD BE DRAWING THE NECESSARY CONCLUSIONS. ONE OBVIOUS CONCLUSION, IN SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 00548 021657Z

THE FRENCH VIEW, WAS THAT THE PURSUIT OF MBFR, WHICH WOULD RESULT IN REDUCTION OF CONVENTIONAL STRENGTH IN EUROPE, WAS DANGEROUS. ANOTHER CONCLUSION WAS THAT GREATER EMPHASIS AND ATTENTION

SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO THE NUCLEAR FORCES OF THE FRENCH AND THE UK. FRENCH REP ALSO SUGGESTED THAT SCHLESINGER'S RECENT STATEMENT ON THE POSSIBLE CHANGE IN USA APPROACH TO NUCLEAR TARGETTING CONSTITUTED PUBLIC ADMISSION BY THE USA THAT NUCLEAR RELATIONSHIP WITH USSR HAD BEEN ALTERED IN AN UNFAVOURABLE WAY. IT SEEMS POSSIBLE THAT THIS LATTER POINT MAY BE ONE THAT FRENCH WILL RETURN TO IN THE PERIOD AHEAD AS THEY SEEK TO GAIN SUPPORT FOR THEIR APPROACH TO THE DRAFT DECLARATION.

WE DID NOT CONSIDER IT USEFUL TO DEBATE THESE POINTS WITH FRENCH REP AT ANY LENGTH, COMMENTING ONLY THAT FOR 25 YEARS THE ALLIANCE HAD OPERATED ON THE PHILOSOPHY THAT SECURITY PROBLEMS OF ONE OF ITS AREAS WERE OF CONCERN TO ALL MEMBERS AND THAT WE WOULD PREFER TO SEE THIS IDEA PERPETUATED IN THE PROPOSED DECLARATION RATHER THAN THE PHILOSOPHY WHICH SEEMED TO SUGGEST THAT MEMBERS OF ONE AREA COULD NOT COUNT ON THE SUPPORT OF OTHER MEMBERS IN THE SEARCH FOR SOLUTION FOR THEIR REGIONAL SECURITY PROBLEMS. WE ALSO INDICATED THAT APART FROM SUBSTANCE OF THESE TWO DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO CURRENT EUROPEAN SECURITY PROBLEMS WE CONSIDERED IT IMPORTANT TO THINK CAREFULLY ABOUT WHAT COULD USEFULLY BE SAID IN THE DECLARATION THAT WAS DESIGNED TO STRENGTHEN PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN THE ALLIANCE. TO A CONSIDERABLE EXTENT CREDIBILITY OF THE DETERRENT STRENGTH OF THE ALLIANCE WAS A MATTER OF PSYCHOLOGY WHERE THE IMPRESSION CREATED BY STATEMENTS OF THIS KIND COULD HAVE FAIRLY MAJOR IMPACT." END TEXT

3. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INDICATIONS COMING TO ADDRESSEES' ATTENTION THAT FRENCH ARE TAKING SIMILAR STEPS IN OTHER ALLIED CAPITALS.

SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 00548 021657Z

RUMSFLED

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic DecapTIONing: Z
Capture Date: 11 JUN 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 FEB 1974
DecapTION Date: 28 MAY 2004
DecapTION Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATO00548
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740267/abbryszv.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NOFORN
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NOFORN
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <12 JUL 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ATLANTIC RELATIONS: FRENCH VIEWS ON ATLANTIC DECLARATION
TAGS: PFOR, NATO
To: STATE INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005